

## Overman Bill Flatly Opposed By Hoke Smith

### Georgia Senator Refuses to Vote for Measure as It Stands

### Objects to Precedent

### Would Further Reduce Pro- visions; New Substitutes Offered by Senators

[Staff Correspondence]

WASHINGTON, March 6.—After introducing a substitute for the Overman bill, granting the President blanket authority to make changes in the executive machinery, Senator Hoke Smith, of Georgia, announced today that he would not vote for the bill as it was reported to the Judiciary Committee by the Overman sub-committee.

The sub-committee drew some of the teeth of the bill as it came from the White House, but Senator Smith would draw still more. He would confine the authority granted entirely to changes within the War and Navy departments. It will be recalled that this blanket power bill was first sent to the Democratic leader of the Senate, Mr. Martin, of Virginia, by the President, and that Mr. Martin refused to introduce it.

### Offers New Substitute

Another substitute for the Overman bill was offered in today's meeting of the Judiciary Committee. This was by Senator Sterling, of South Dakota, and provided that changes could be made under the bill only inside departmental lines. This would prevent the transfer of a particular bureau or function to another, from one department to another.

Senator Hoke Smith introduced a new bill in the form of an amendment to the Overman measure in which much of the preliminary working of the bill, as drafted by the President, was preserved, but in which the power to concentrate, consolidate and coordinate the executive departments, bureaus and other agencies of government was strictly limited to the War and Navy departments.

"I shall not vote for the Overman bill as it was reported back to the Judiciary Committee from Senator Overman's sub-committee," said Senator Smith. "That measure as drafted was vicious and in the last degree unnecessary in the present circumstances."

### Objects to Precedent

"It is all very well to suggest that if these extraordinary powers were granted to the President he would not misuse them. Of course, he would not misuse them, and no one expects or fears that he would, but, on the other hand, how about the Senate? Why are we called upon to grant powers which are not needed and which might be used wrongfully, just because we don't expect the present incumbent of the White House to misuse them?"

"Under the Overman bill, as drafted, the President might go into the Treasury Department and relieve the Federal Reserve Board of every power granted to it under the carefully drawn statute which created it, and concentrate them all in the Central bank of the Currency. Also it would permit of many other things which no one has any idea that this President might do, and yet which he could do if he would. I hold that the Senate was not elected to surrender such control over the executive branch of the government as the Overman bill proposes to grant."

## German Quotes Baker To Prove America Is Still Unprepared

By Arthur S. Draper

LOUIS V. March 6.—Major Gaedke, the famous German military writer of the "Der Kriegerzeitung," continues to give interesting comment on Secretary Baker's testimony before the United States Senate Military Committee, and also an insight into the kind of information supplied to the German people. Major Gaedke writes as follows:

"The news is looking forward with anxiety to the spring campaign. For they expect, and really do not hope that the United States' help will make up for the lack of Russian aid. There are doubts on this. Baker's statement to the Congressional committee would have opened his eyes. He evidently passed some painful hours in reading that, after years of preparation, the American army was not yet ready, that it lacked rifles and guns, and as a result, was not trained. The enormous gaps in the equipment of the troops in training camps he was forced to admit, and the committee was contested the statement that the troops in France were fully equipped. In other words, a few thousand men of troops had been sent to France utterly unprepared, to deceive the eyes of the world and perhaps frighten us."

"We do not mean to deny that troops are again being sent across—and they think it very wicked for us not to be willing to grant them safe passage—but these mere fractions, perhaps a second division, which are being sent over, are only dribbles and can only increase the casualty list."

"In the case of our submarines, these troops are being sent by various routes, by way of London, Bordeaux and Le Havre. But no large bodies of American soldiers will be brought over this way in the near future. The enemy will have to fight the decisive battle without any worthy help from across the Atlantic."

### Former Head of Chinese Navy Slain by Assassin

Peking, Feb. 28.—Admiral Chen Pih-yuan, former Minister of the Navy, has been assassinated at Canton. The assassin escaped. The motive for the deed is not known.

Chen Pih-yuan was educated in a British naval school and had served in the Chinese navy most of his life. For some time he acted as naval adviser to the late President Yuan Shih-kai. In July, 1917, Admiral Chen, whose portfolio of Minister of the Navy had not been cancelled, notwithstanding the overthrow of Li Yuan-hung, issued a manifesto demanding the maintenance of the presidential constitution, the re-assembly of Parliament and the punishment of the rebellious Tzuhsin in accordance with law. The manifesto declared the then Peking government illegal and also all the mandates it had issued since the dissolution of Parliament.

## Enemy Sabotage Hit In Bill Passed by House

WASHINGTON, March 6.—A bill imposing severe penalties on persons convicted of destroying war material, or conspiring to prevent its manufacture, was passed by the House today by unanimous vote. After it had been amended to meet the objection of members that it would operate to penalize workmen in war plants who went on strike. A similar bill has been passed by the Senate.

As reported by the Judiciary Committee, the measure provided that any person who "obstructs" the country in preparing for carrying on the war would be liable to punishment. Members of the committee, who were to penalize this would affect striking workmen and a long debate followed.

The bill was amended to include persons who shall conspire to prevent the erection or reconstruction of war factories, materials or utilities, as well as those who commit acts "with intent to injure, interfere with or obstruct" the government in the prosecution of the war.

## Britain Is Now on Shortest Rations, Says Lord Reading

Though supplies for our allies are moving more freely than they were when the congestion of freight at American ports reached a climax early in the year, Britain's stock of food is still meagre. This was the outstanding fact developed at a meeting yesterday, at which Lord Reading, Ambassador and Minister Plenipotentiary of Great Britain to the United States and high commissioner in this country, discussed war problems with newspaper men.

"The food situation is as serious as it has been at any time during the war," said Lord Reading, "and we are now on the closest rations. The shortage is, however, being relieved by the supplies you are sending us, especially cereals."

Food shipments now are being given the right of way, but munitions and other supplies are going across as rapidly as cargo space becomes available. Whatever food there is, Lord Reading added, is being equally divided under the rationing plan, which, he said, had the advantage of putting the rich and the poor on a parity. The former can no longer outbid the latter for supplies, as every one is getting a fair share and no more. The chief shortages at present are in meat, butter and sugar.

"Surely I need not tell you," he continued, "how beholden we are to America for supplies, more particularly for food at this moment and during the last few months. The value to the Allies of these exports is incalculable. Representatives of France and Italy have been working in close cooperation with me at Washington, and we have found the greatest good will and received the greatest assistance from both Mr. McAdoo and Mr. Hoover."

"I have been much impressed since I have been here by the eagerness of the American people to respond to the appeals of Mr. Hoover for conservation of food supplies."

The feeling among all British troops and people with regard to the war, he stated, is that they must hold on to the end and shall do so until a just and durable peace has been obtained. When Lloyd George made his "war aim" speech to representatives of British trades unions in the fore part of January, it was only after he had conducted classes of British society and had obtained the opinions of labor leaders, party leaders, including Earl Grey and Mr. Asquith, as well as representatives of the various British dominions, as far as it was possible to reach them.

His statement of war aims was thus thoroughly representative of British opinion, and was a substantial accord with that made by President Wilson a day or two thereafter.

## Employees Urge Civil Service Appeal Bill

### President of City Commission Opposes Final Jurisdiction in Courts

[Staff Correspondence]

ALBANY, March 6.—Representatives of every variety of public employes in the state appeared before the Senate Civil Service Committee today to urge favorable action on the bill of Senator James A. Walker, of New York, giving dismissed Civil Service employes the right of appeal to the courts.

The chief objection came from James E. MacBride, president of the New York Civil Service Commission. He said that the measure, if enacted into law, would lead to serious complications. He said that if the bill were amended so that New York City employes would have to make their appeal to the Civil Service Commission it would be less objectionable.

Mr. MacBride, who appeared as the representative of the Hyman administration, also objected to the bill introduced by Senator Charles Murphy, of Brooklyn, which seeks to prevent politicians from playing with the Civil Service. The Murphy bill provides that when a Civil Service position is changed from the exempt to the competitive class, it cannot be again placed in the exempt class.

## Standardized Car Time Impossible, Says B. R. T.

The publicity department of the B. R. T. answered the Public Service Commission's new order directing immediate standardization of service yesterday with a broadside of "flimsy."

No comment was forthcoming from the commission, Commissioner Charles S. Hervey, who with Commissioner F. J. H. Kracke made the investigation which led to the order, spent the day in Albany. Kracke would say nothing because the B. R. T. "statement" was unsigned.

Here is what the B. R. T. had to say: "The company will cooperate with the commission in any effective way to procure sufficient and regular car service under existing conditions. The order proposed, however, like any attempt to prescribe in detail precise operations covering seventy different lines of surface cars and 641 miles of track, leads to complications, absurdities and impossibilities which would, probably, if efforts were made to carry it out in detail, impair service as much as it would help it. All street railroad operation in a great city must be elastic in order to be effective. With fluctuations of travel so great as they are in this community, varying not only from day to day but from hour to hour, and by reason of weather conditions or other influences being subject to constant changes, car service cannot be bound by cast-iron rules."

## Legislature Has An All-Day Fight Over Robinson

### Nomination by Anti-Whit- man Leaders Precipitates Bitter Dispute

### Governor Steals March

### Renames Mitchell, but Brown Disputes Appointment as Illegal

[Staff Correspondence]

ALBANY, March 6.—An attempt by anti-Whitman leaders at a joint conference to name Douglas Robinson, brother-in-law of Colonel Roosevelt, as head of the Farms and Markets Council precipitated an all-day row today in the Albany Legislature, which rebelled against taking action until they had found what the sentiment of their districts was with respect to Mr. Robinson.

The fight was waged behind locked doors up to 5 o'clock, when Senator E. R. Brown, of the floor of the Senate, took a parking place in the Governor's office. All believed the row was over for the day when the Governor sent to the Senate a fresh batch of nominations to the Farms and Markets Council. And nowhere in it was the name of Mr. Robinson. For head of the council the Governor renamed John Mitchell, the labor leader.

### Senate To Go Ahead

Later Senator Brown said that the surprise blow of the Governor in renouncing Robinson had not seriously affected the situation and that the Senate had a right to elect members of the Farms and Markets Council. He said he believed the Legislature would go ahead with its program.

This includes the obtaining of an opinion of three former judges of the Court of Appeals—Nathan L. Miller and Judge Van, Republicans, and Edgar M. Cullen, Democrat—as to the right of the Legislature to elect the head of the council.

This was made necessary because an opinion rendered by Attorney General Merton E. Lewis held that the Legislature had no right to elect the head of the council.

The second march the Governor has stolen on his opponents in the Legislature. The first was a fortnight ago, when the Senate was about to refuse to confirm the appointments to the council. Before it could act the Governor withdrew the ten names. Today's names include four of the original council which was the target of caustic resolutions of various agricultural societies. Besides Mr. Mitchell, those renominated were James H. H. Killough, of Brooklyn, a commission merchant; Frank W. Howe, dean of Syracuse University Agricultural College; John Y. Gorow, of Washingtonville, ex-president of the Dairymen's League.

The new nominations are headed by Miss Mary B. Van Arsdale, associate professor of household arts and director of the department of foods and cookery, Teachers College, Columbia.

The others are Datus C. Clarke, of Peru, dairyman; John G. Pemberton, of Owego, dairyman and breeder; William F. Pratt, of Batavia, farmer and trustee of Cornell University; Lewis J. Morrill, of Kinderhook, fruit grower.

When the name of Douglas Robinson was presented by Speaker Sweet took with the Republicans. He is the father of Senator Robinson, one of the most popular men here, and a brother-in-law of the Colonel.

Assemblyman Schuyler M. Meyer, on being the name, inquired if it was the Mr. Robinson he knew. Speaker Sweet hurriedly replied it was. Then Mr. Meyer launched in an eloquent speech, seconding the nomination. He said that Douglas Robinson was a man of large affairs and would be a credit to any branch of the government.

"He lives in my district," continued Mr. Meyer, "and he is one of the largest real estate men in the city of New York. One of the estates he manages is the Astor estate."

Up-state men began to wonder if Assemblyman Meyer had gone mad. But inquiries developed that what he said was true, and rural Republicans, who had believed Mr. Robinson an up-state farmer, asked time to consult their constituents.

## Government Operation Of Packing Industry Urged Before Senate Committee

WASHINGTON, March 6.—Government control and operation of the packing industries during the war was suggested by Senator Kenyon, of Iowa, today before the Senate Agriculture Committee.

Frank Reid, editor of a Chicago stock journal, was testifying on the shortage of food, particularly in meat.

"Don't you think it eventually will be necessary to take over the packing industries and operate them?" asked Senator Kenyon.

"Yes, I do," Reid replied, adding that the packers are controlling the meat supply and dictating prices.

"I believe President Wilson's 'blind side' is farming and the farmers," Reid said. "In nothing he has written or said, is there anything to indicate a sympathetic understanding of the interests of farmers. I believe that Mr. Hoover and Secretary Houston would do a lot of things if President Wilson would let them."

## McAdoo Announces Oversubscription

WASHINGTON, March 6.—Oversubscription of the issue of \$500,000,000 Treasury certificates of indebtedness, subscriptions for which closed yesterday, was announced to-night by Secretary McAdoo. The certificates were the first to bear an interest rate of 4½ per cent and were issued in preparation for the third Liberty Loan.

"Subscriptions in every district except Philadelphia equalled or exceeded the tentative quota," said Secretary McAdoo's statement. "Larger subscriptions for the New York banks were scaled in order to enable allotment in full to be made to other subscribers. The tentative New York quota of \$194,000,000 was largely in excess of its quota on the basis of the resources of the New York district, and it is a source of particular gratification that the subscriptions in other districts have shown such a substantial improvement. This means a healthy distribution of the certificates, which will strengthen the whole financial position."

### Spy Suspect Is Fugitive German

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, March 6.—Investigation by Federal officials of the activities of Frank Dumok, alias Frank Dumont, arrested here recently when maps of military camps and fortifications were found in his possession, revealed today that he had escaped several months ago from an interned German vessel in Chile.

## Man Power Nation's Need, Nixon Says

Men, even more than tools and materials, is the great need of the United States shipbuilding programme today, is what Lewis Nixon, one of the foremost shipbuilders of the country, told the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce yesterday.

"If we get the ships," he said, "we must man them. The greatest need of the shipbuilder today is labor. We have a mint of money and all the tools we want."

Concerning the ability of America to take her place among the great mercantile marine powers of the world, both now and after the war, Mr. Nixon said: "They tell us we can't build ships. We can. I can take any of our railroads and show the efficiency with which we build, equip and run them. I can take you to the Great Lakes also and show you a ship that is built more cheaply than it could be built anywhere else, and that is matched in no way in any place on earth, and we pay higher wages."

## Trade Board Accuses Sears, Roebuck & Co.

WASHINGTON, March 6.—Complaint was issued today against Sears, Roebuck & Co., of Chicago, by the Federal Trade Commission, charging unfair methods of competition in the conduct of its business.

The complaint summons the firm to answer a charge that it had advertised sugar for sale at three to four cents a pound, actually at a loss, but only upon condition that certain amounts of other groceries be purchased, for which a sufficient price was charged to make a profit on the combined sale. The complaint further charges that Sears, Roebuck & Co., with the purpose of injuring competitors, has circulated catalogues representing the quality of merchandise sold by its competitors as inferior.

The complaint charged that the low price on sugar was made for the purpose of lessening competition and creating a monopoly.

A hearing has been set for April 11.

CHICAGO, March 6.—Officials of Sears-Roebuck & Co. said today that the sale of sugar by the plan complained of by the Federal Trade Commission was discontinued last June, when a shortage of sugar became apparent.

"We cooperated with the Federal food administration at that time and stopped the plan of sale," said J. B. Scott, of the wholesale grocery department. "We are at a loss to understand why a complaint should be made at this time."

Julius Rosenberg, head of Sears-Roebuck & Co., is one of the government's 31-year men in Washington and a prominent member of the advisory committee of the Council of National Defense.

## Graduates to Learn What Ails Harvard

About thirty graduates of Harvard University met last night at the Harvard Club to attempt an answer to the question: "What's the matter with Harvard?" They finally decided the Cambridge institution requires emergency treatment in the way of a transfusion of liberal blood to the very conservative blood of overseers.

Herbert Croly, editor of "The New Republic," presided, and the purpose of the meeting was outlined by William Everett, a Boston lawyer. He said the university must go through a period of reconstruction; that it was "shot to pieces" because of the war, and that the best of the faculty had been taken away for war work. Mr. Everett suggested the prompt organization of a Harvard Liberal Club in New York.

"We must take a leaf from the book of the 'nuts,'" said Mr. Everett. "When the proletariat wants something it organizes. We want liberal representation on the board of overseers and must organize."

"There is some prospect of getting liberal nominated this year, because the conservative element controlling the university fear Supreme Court Justice Brandeis may be nominated. They don't want that, for Brandeis fought President Lowell when he was a lawyer, and they don't want any open trouble."

Mr. Everett indicated that the question of academic freedom harassing the trustees of Columbia University just now is playing a part in the demand for liberalism at Harvard. He said:

"Conditions are improving somewhat. A year ago President Lowell refused Mrs. Skeffington (of the Seán Eainers) permission to speak in the yard. Recently she was granted this permission. No definite charge can be laid against freedom of instruction, yet there must be changes. For instance, the English department is made up of technical men; there are no humanists in it."

The meeting ended with a decision to hold a dinner soon and invite all Harvard men who are suspected of liberal ideas.

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Yet taking it, by and large (we hear it in the trade), there probably isn't another line of clothing in the country today that for fabrics, tailoring and high class workmanship is more reasonably priced.

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Spring overcoats.

Spring hats, shoes and fixings.

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The Four Corners Fifth Ave. at 41st St.  
Broadway at Warren

## Control of Roads Is Now Fixed at 21 Months After War

### Rate Making Authority Only Point To Be Set- tled by Conferrees

WASHINGTON, March 6.—Conferrees of the Senate and the House on the Administration railroad control bill worked until a late hour to-night to draft a final agreement. Only one important question, the rate-making authority, remained to be settled.

Although the conferrees worked until after 11 o'clock they were unable to adjust their differences over rate making authority and adjourned until tomorrow. They expect to break the deadlock then, but the delay may prevent final action on the conference report by Congress until next week.

In lieu of the House provision giving the President rate-making authority and the Senate plan authorizing the approval of the Interstate Commerce Commission, the conferrees took up a compromise which would empower the President to appear by representative before the commission in the suggestion of rates needed to increase the carriers' revenues.

Another question before the confer-

ence was the matter of state regulation and taxation of the railroads while under Federal control.

The conferrees had previously settled the dispute over the period of Federal operation, by fixing it at twenty-one months after the war instead of two years, as proposed in the House bill and eighteen months by the Senate.

Allowance of compensation to the carriers, based on net operating income for the three years ended June 30, 1917, also has been agreed to, as well as a provision placing all short lines within the Federal system. There was no disagreement in the provision appropriating \$500,000,000 as a revolving fund for the use of the Director General.

## "Movie" Actor Jailed for Sending Liquor to Soldiers

For the next year Howard Blake, self-styled motion picture actor, will spend his time in the Mercer County Jail wondering why he supplied two uniformed soldiers with a flask of whiskey, Judge Martin T. Marfan, of the Federal District Court yesterday sentenced Blake to twelve months after Assistant United States District Attorney Lawrence H. Axman had recounted how Blake met two soldiers in East Fourteenth Street on the night of February 22 and gave them the liquor.

It was also testified at the trial that Blake had been convicted seven times, once for impairing the morals of a minor and for petit larceny.

## Stotesbury To Be Major

WASHINGTON, March 6.—L. W. Stotesbury, formerly adjutant general of the New York National Guard, is soon to be commissioned a major in the inspector general's department of the army, it was learned to-night on competent authority.

General Stotesbury will be assigned to the office of the inspector general of the army here, in the division of the office concerned with National Guard operations.

## Secret Service Bureaus Plan to Work in Unison

### They Seek to Co-ordinate Efforts of Four Govern- ment Departments

WASHINGTON, March 6.—Representatives of the various government bureaus of investigation and secret service were called into conference today at the Department of Justice to discuss means of coordinating their work and eliminating duplication in the ferreting out of enemy agents.

These meetings have been held weekly for nearly two months. It was disclosed to-day, although heretofore care has been taken to maintain secrecy. Officials finally consented to publication of the facts, after it became evident that propaganda was being conducted throughout the country for consolidation of the bureaus by societies devoted to national defense and security.

Represented at these conferences are the Department of Justice's Bureau of Investigation, the largest of the government's secret service agencies; the Intelligence Bureau of the Army, Navy and State departments, respectively, and the Treasury's Customs Bureau and Secret Service.

At these conferences representatives of the different bureaus discuss particular phases of espionage cases in which they are interested and obtain suggestions or side lights on the situations from heads of other bureaus.

Along with free art, cubist verse and Bolshevik goulash, Greenwich Village has a new distraction these days. It is going to trials—not vulgar, stupid, out and out, commonplace, lawless trials, but nice, sociable, quite intimate trials, staged just among their own little groups, don't you know.

Yesterday it was the trial of Arnold Marchand and his wife—Mrs. Marie—of the bangles and the dashing eyes and the passionate-throated shawls and the fifteen-cent-a-head coffee, Romya true here.

The case came up before Magistrate McGeehan in Jefferson Market Court, and because that was so conveniently near to all the studios and theatres the attendance was truly fabulous. Also there was plenty of stuff promised.

The charge against the Marchands, who were jailed a week ago yesterday along with Polly's establishment, just across the way in Sheridan Square, was conducting a disorderly house—not at the celebrated Romya Marie resort, where all the village and half of the town repairs for 2 a. m. coffee, but at another address, further up Washington Place.

The show, though, did not come off. Arnold Marchand, with mustache bristles, came forward and, waiving examination, Marie's dark eyes flashed approval, and the magistrate held them both for trial in \$500 bail.

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